

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 7-19 without prejudice or dedication.

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

1. (currently amended) A method of providing a user status message in an instant messaging system, comprising:

obtaining a user status message associated with an owner user;

~~sensing a user request to edit said user status message;~~

providing a user interface for ~~editing said user status message, wherein said editing~~
~~includes~~ adding a new entry to said user status message;

inputting, through said user interface for adding said new entry to said user status message, information to include within said new entry; ~~and~~

adding said new entry to said user status message, wherein said adding said new entry includes inserting a time at which said new entry was added into said user status message, wherein said adding said new entry to said user status message further includes adding said new entry to a plurality of previous entries maintained within said user status message, wherein said new entry and said previous entries together provide an editing history of said status message to other users, and wherein said new entry and each of said plurality of previous entries are each

editable by both said owner user and said other users through a clickable portion of said user status message;

detecting a character string having a predetermined format within said new entry; and
forming a link to an associated web page through said character string having said
predetermined format, wherein said forming includes providing a form interface that allows
adding of said web page associated with said link.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said adding said new entry further comprises inserting a date at which said new entry was added into said user status message.

3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein said adding said new entry further comprises inserting an identifier of a user associated with said request to edit said user status message.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

wherein said predetermined format is a predetermined capitalization format~~detecting a~~
~~character string having a predetermined format within said new entry; and~~
~~forming a link to a web page through said character having said predetermined format.~~

5. (original) The method of claim 4, further comprising:

creating a new web page on a predetermined server system responsive to said detecting said character string having a predetermined format within said new entry, wherein said link to said web page comprises a link to said new web page, and wherein said new web page is an user editable web page.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 4, further comprising:

presenting an interface to said owner user associated with said user status message, wherein said interface enables said owner user to indicate at least one other user that is allowed to add an entry to said user status message; and

preventing users other than said at least one other user and said owner user associated with said user status message from adding an entry to said user status message.

7. (cancelled)

8. (cancelled)

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11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (cancelled)

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)

18. (cancelled)

19. (cancelled)